

FISCAL NOTE
Department of Cultural Resources – Admission Fee Increase

Agency: Department of Cultural Resources/ Division of State Historic Sites

Rule Citation: 07 NCAC 04N .0202 ADMISSION FEES

Staff Contact: Joshua Davis
Rulemaking Coordinator
Joshua.davis@ncdcr.gov
919-807-7277

Impact Summary:

State government:	Yes
Local government:	No
Substantial economic impact:	No
Federal government:	No
Small businesses:	No

Authority: G.S. 121-4(8); 121-4(9)

Description of the rule change

The Department of Cultural Resources Division of State Historic Sites proposes amending state rule 07 NCAC 04N .0202 ADMISSION FEES. The rule change includes admission fee changes for Thomas Wolfe Memorial, Reed Gold Mine, Historic Bath, and the NC Transportation Museum at Spencer. (See Appendix 1 for proposed rule text.)

Thomas Wolfe Memorial

The rule amends the admission fee at Thomas Wolfe Memorial from \$1.00 to \$5.00 for adults, and \$0.50 to \$2.00 for children.

Historic Bath

The rule amends the admission fee at Historic Bath from \$1.00 to \$2.00 for adults and from \$0.50 to \$1.00 for children.

Reed Gold Mine

The rule adds an admission fee at Reed Gold Mine of \$3.00 per person and of \$2.00 for groups of ten or more for gold panning.

NC Transportation Museum

The rule adds an admission fee at the North Carolina Transportation Museum at Spencer as follows:

- (1) General Admission: \$5.00 for adults; \$4.00 for seniors and active military; \$3.00 students (ages 3 to 12); and free for children (ages 0 to 2).
- (2) Group Admission (15 or more visitors): \$4.00 for adults; \$3.50 for seniors and active military; \$1.50 for students (ages 3 to 12); and free for children (ages 0 to 2).

Reason for the rule change

NC Transportation Museum Fees

State Historic sites needs to amend the rule to add admission charges to offset the loss of revenue from fiscal year 2011-12 budget cuts. Session Law 2011-145. Section 21.1 established the Transportation Museum special fund. The special fund consists of all receipts derived at the NC Transportation Museum. The special fund will cover all costs associated with the operation and maintenance of the

North Carolina Transportation Museum. Senate Appropriations Committee Report on the Continuation, Expansion and Capital Budgets (2011 Budget Technical Corrections) transfers the Transportation Museum to 50% receipts-support in FY 2011-12 and total receipts-support in FY 2012-13. A temporary rule is currently in place for the amended rule change.

Sources:

<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2011/Bills/House/PDF/H200v9.pdf>

<http://www.ncleg.net/sessions/2011/budget/2011/HB22MoneyReport-6-16-11.pdf>

Fees at other State Historic Sites

The proposed amended rule also includes fee increases at three other historic sites: Thomas Wolfe Memorial, Reed Gold Mine, and Historic Bath. Thomas Wolfe Memorial and Historic Bath have not had fee increases since 1990. From fiscal year 2008-09 to fiscal year 2011-12, State Historic Sites has had total budget cuts to its appropriation of over 17 percent. Of the 17 percent, 6 percent of the cuts applied directly to the NC Transportation Museum.

	FY 2011-12	FY 2010-11	FY 2009-10	FY 2008-09
Certified Budget	\$7,404,414	\$8,400,854	\$8,785,305	\$8,926,712
% Reduction	17%			

To mitigate the budget cuts, Session Law 2011-213 established a special revenue fund for State Historic Sites to help support operations. The special revenue fund consists of all receipts derived from the lease or rental of property or facilities, disposition of structures or products of the land, and admissions and fees collected at the State Historic Sites. The revenues in the Fund may be used only for the operation, interpretation, maintenance, preservation, development, and expansion of the individual State Historic Site where the receipts are generated.

Impact - The Division of Historic Sites has identified Thomas Wolfe Memorial, Reed Gold Mine, and Historic Bath as popular historic sites where fee increases would best generate additional revenue for the special fund.

Sources:

<http://www.ncleg.net/Sessions/2011/Bills/Senate/PDF/S340v4.pdf>

BD 701 - Certified Budget Report

Appendix 1

07 NCAC 04N .0202 is proposed under permanent procedures as follows:

07 NCAC 04N .0202 **ADMISSION FEES**

(a) The following sites do not charge an admission fee:

- (1) Alamance Battleground,
- (2) Aycock Birthplace,
- (3) Bennett Place,
- (4) Bentonville Battleground,
- (5) Brunswick Town,
- (6) Caswell-Neuse,
- (7) Duke Homestead,
- (8) Fort Dobbs,
- (9) Fort Fisher,
- (10) Historic Halifax,
- (11) House in the Horseshoe,
- (12) Polk Memorial,
- (13) Reed Gold Mine,
- (14) Somerset Place,
- ~~(15) Spencer Shops,~~
- ~~(16)~~(16) Town Creek Indian Mound,
- ~~(17)~~(17) Vance Birthplace,
- ~~(18)~~(18) Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial,
- ~~(19)~~(19) Horne Creek Living History Farm.

(b) The following site charges an admission fee of ~~one dollar (\$1.00)~~ five dollars (\$5.00) for adults, ~~fifty cents (\$0.50)~~ two dollars (\$2.00) for children, and one half off the regular admission price for groups of ten or more: Thomas Wolfe Memorial.

(c) The following site charges an admission fee of one dollar (\$1.00) for adults, twenty-five cents (\$0.25) for children: James Iredell House.

(d) The following site charges an admission fee of ~~one dollar (\$1.00)~~ two dollars (\$2.00) for adults, ~~fifty cents (\$0.50)~~ one dollar (\$1.00) for children and one half off the regular admission price for groups of ten or more to each ~~major~~ historic structure:

- (1) Historic Bath, Bonner House;
- (2) Historic Bath, Palmer-Marsh House.

(e) The following site charges an admission fee of three dollars (\$3.00) for adults, one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) for students, two dollars (\$2.00) for senior citizens, and fifty cents (\$0.50) off the regular admission price for groups of ten or more: Elizabeth II.

(f) The North Carolina Transportation Museum at Spencer charges admission fees as follows:

- (1) General Admission: Five dollars (\$5.00) for adults; four dollars (\$4.00) for seniors and active military; three dollars (\$3.00) students (ages 3 to 12); and free for children (ages 0 to 2).
- (2) Group Admission (15 or more visitors): Four dollars (\$4.00) for adults; three dollars and fifty cents (\$3.50) for seniors and active military; one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) for students (ages 3 to 12); and free for children (ages 0 to 2).
- (g) The following site charges a gold panning fee of three dollars (\$3.00) per person and two dollars (\$2.00) for groups of ten or more: Reed Gold Mine.

History Note: Authority G.S. 121-4(8); 121-4(9); ~~143B-62(2)d~~;
Eff. February 1, 1985;
Amended Eff. January 1, 1990; June 1, 1989;
Emergency Amendment Eff. July 1, 2011;
Temporary Amendment Eff. August 26, 2011.

Appendix 2

Table 2

Historic Site	FY2010-11 Actual Admission Receipts
Thomas Wolf Memorial	\$8,124.00
Reed Gold Mine	\$40,362.50
Historic Bath	\$2,885.00